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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT
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50X1

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)
SUBJECT Polizeibereitschaften
(People's Police Units)

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[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

1. Volkspolizei-Grenzbereitschaft "Ring um Berlin".

The Volkspolizei-Grenzbereitschaft "Ring um Berlin" was reorganized in late December 1949. The Bereitschaftsstab (unit headquarters) was moved to Jellow (N 53/Z 73). A Kommandatur (border sector headquarters) was established in Klein Machno. (N 53/Z 73). Checkpoints were not changed. The reorganization had not been completed by the time the reporting policeman filed.

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2. Volkspolizeibereitschaft moving out of Brandenburg (N 53/Z 23).
Activation of a new Polizeibereitschaft.

a. The Brandenburg Volkspolizeibereitschaft was reorganized and left the town on 18 December 1949. The Stabskommando and the 2d Kommando moved to Loebeu (O 52/A 80), the 1st Kommando to Kochstedt (N 52/E 06) and the 3rd Kommando to Treptow (N 54/U 67). The latter Kommando was attached to the Treptow Volkspolizeibereitschaft in excess of authorized strength.

b. The Brandenburg Volkspolizeibereitschaft leaving left town, a new Bereitschaft, allegedly of 1,000 to 1,200 police, was activated in Brandenburg in January 1950. The new Bereitschaft is said to be an engineer unit (Pionierbereitschaft), allegedly commanded by a former engineer officer and ordnance expert of the German Administration of the Interior.

c. Having been transferred from Brandenburg to Treptow, the headquarters of the former 3rd Kommando of the dissolved Brandenburg Polizeibereitschaft was shipped to Gotha (N 51/S 06) in late January 1950 where a new Polizeibereitschaft was allegedly to be activated.

3. Volkspolizeischule in Eggesin (N 54/Q 28).

[Redacted] information on the Eggesin Volkspolizeischule [Redacted]

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Type: Officer candidate school

Strength: 120 to 200 officers and about 1,000 EM

Organization: ten to twelve of four platoons each

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Personnel: Inspekteur Philipp, school commander
Inspekteur Ludwig, PK officer
A Soviet instructor

Armament: One 105-mm gun
Five mortars of various calibers
Twenty machine guns, model 42
Fifteen machine guns, model 02/15
450 carbines, model 98 K
300 submachine guns, model 42
180 pistols, model 08

Training: Intensive political indoctrination and training
in firing and engineer service.

4. Volkspolizeischule in Glocwen (A 53/Y 98)

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Information on the Glocwen Volkspolizeischule

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Previous designation: Polizeibereitschaft II/1

Type: Artillery school, with the elements being referred
to as batteries.

Strength: School cadre personnel of 200 and 1,000 trainees

Personnel: Inspekteur Teloh, school commandant
Inspekteur Thiele, PK-officer

Kommandeur Pietzoch, in charge of military
training

Kommandeur Larisch, administration and supply
officer

Armament: Three 150-mm field howitzers

Four 72-mm AT guns

Eight to ten light infantry guns (some being damaged)

Six to eight machine guns of model 02/15

Submachine guns of models 42 and 43

Carbines of model 98K

Pistols of model 08

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Training: Primarily artillery training.

5. Information on the Glocwen Polzeischule (3)

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Type: Artillery school

Organization: School headquarters

Two battalion headquarters

Ten companies (mail was addressed not to the
companies out to Abteilungen, e.g., the 5th Co
was Abteilung R.)

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Personnel: Inspekteur Teloh, school commandant (a veteran of the Spanish Civil War on the sea side)

Inspekteur Inidig PK-chief

Pietzoch, adjutant and in charge of artillery training (honour first lieutenant, (Arty))

Oberkommissar Steinberg, CO of 5th Co

Oberkommissar Meinard, PK-chief of I Bn and tactical instructor

Kommissar Farrer, tactical instructor with the I Bn

Kommissar Kloth, gunnery instructor

Polizeimeister Kilian, tactical instructor

Hauptwachtmeister Konrad Busch, ordnance instructor

Armament: Three heavy field howitzers of model 18 (arrived in late January 1950)

Four to six light field howitzers of model 17 with muzzle brake (arrived in mid-January 1950)

One 88-mm AA gun (arrived in late January 1950)

Three 75-mm AT guns (arrived in December 1949)

Three hundred submachine guns or assault rifles of Model 44

Carbines of model 98K

Some machine guns of models 08 and 34.

Motor vehicles: Three passenger cars

Two supply trucks

Prime movers for artillery pieces were not yet available.

Radio equipment: Some portable radio sets of types B and D.

Training: Allegedly, 3-month courses for artillery officer candidates are being conducted at the school. Courses started with basic infantry training. Ordnance instruction and ballistics were emphasized at the time the reporting policeman filed. Service of the piece drill was also held in the drill halls. The training program provided for three hours of political indoctrination each day.

6. Volkspolizeibereitschaft Ernst-Thaelmann in Grossenhain (w 52/A C1)

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information on the Volkspolizeibereitschaft Ernst-Thaelmann

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Location: Casernes at the Grossschain airfield.

Strength: About 1,000 police

Organization: four Kommandos of four Abteilungen each. Each Kommando numbered 250 men.

CO of Bereitschaft: Oberpolizeirat Fleisener.

Armament: About 30 small armored vehicles (possibly armored track-laying ammunition carriers of the former German Armed Forces)

Six heavy machine guns of model 08/15

Submachine guns of models 42 and 44

Carbines of model 98k

Pistols of model 08

The arms were kept in a closely guarded ordnance room and only issued for the duration of duty hours.

Training: Daily practices with three armored vehicles, each manned by a commandant (Hauptwachtmeister or Oberwachtmeister), a driver, a machine gunner and five submachine gunners. Such a crew exceeded the capacity of the armored vehicles. Only one vehicle was armed with a machine gun.

7. Volkspolizeibereitschaft in Rinnow (a 54/0.21)

8. [redacted] information was obtained on the Rinnow Volkspolizeibereitschaft [redacted]

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Designation: 2d Polizeibereitschaft Brandenburg

Location: former children's rest center (the unit had previously been stationed in Kyritz - R 53/2 17)

Strength: About 1,000 police

Personnel: Oberpolizeirat Fohlendt, CO of Bereitschaft
Oberpolizeirat Tendt, Dpty CO of Bereitschaft

Armament: One T34 tank

One SP gun

One armored reconnaissance car

Submachine guns of model 44

Carbines of model 98k

Pistols of model 08

Motor vehicles: One messenger car
Two trucks
Two passenger cars
One motorcycle

Training: Field training (at squad level; (attack and defense)

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Ballistics and firing with small arms.
Maintenance and servicing of engines.

b. (1) Daily training with four 34 tanks was observed with the Linow Volkspolizeibereitschaft in mid-February 1950

(2) The Bereitschaft was allegedly equipped with the following additional heavy weapons:

Four 105-mm guns and four 75-mm guns.

(3) It was said that three million castmarks were earmarked for the construction of gun storage buildings in the area of the Polizeischule in 1950.

8. Volkspolizeibereitschaft in Potsdam-Liche.

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information on the Potsdam-Liche Volkspolizeibereitschaft

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Designation: 6th Volkspolizeibereitschaft.
Type: Allegedly scheduled as Artilleriebereitschaft (artillery unit)

Strength: 700 police

Organization: Stabskommando and 3 Kommandos

Personnel: Oberpolizeirat Luettel, CO of Bereitschaft
Oberpolizeirat Blasius, PA-chief
1 Soviet instructor

Armament: ten infantry guns of unidentified caliber
Machine guns of model 34 (those of model GE/15 had been turned in)
Submachine guns of model 42
Carbines of model 98K

9. Volkspolizeischule or Volkspolizeibereitschaft in Prenzlau (N 54/ 54):

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information on the Prenzlau Volkspolizeischule or Volkspolizeibereitschaft (?)

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Strength: 40 officers and about 1,100 NPK

Organization: Ten companies

Personnel: Inspektur Schulke, school commandant
Kommandeur Bisenoscher, deputy commandant
Soviet instructor Koppemagen

Armament: One armored vehicle of unidentified type

About 20 mortars

One AT gun

Assault rifles

Submachine guns

Carbines of model 98K

Pistols of model GE

Ten flame throwers were allegedly recently issued to the school

Training: Theoretical instruction on Panzerfaust and

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Fanzerschreck (bazookas)

Miscellaneous: The officers at the school were given the secret information that the 1st through 5th Cos were to go to Moscow for inspection. The date of departure was still unknown.

10. Polizeibereitschaft in Treuenbrietzen (R 53/Z 50)

a. [redacted] information on the Treuenbrietzen Polizeibereitschaft



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Designation: 8th Polizeibereitschaft (originated from the former 10th Polizeibereitschaft, Sondershausen (A 52/D 11))

Location: 10 to 12 cantonment buildings in Treuenbrietzen/Selterhof (new quarters were scheduled to be built in the Spring of 1950)

Strength: 800 police (was to be increased to 1,000 by the Spring of 1950)

Organization: Stabsabteilung of 70 men and 3 Kommandos of three 60 to 80-man Abteilungen each.

Personnel:
 Polizeirat Wagner, CO of Bereitschaft (about 45 years of age)
 Polizeirat Wicher, PK-Leiter (about 31 years of age, confirmed Communist)
 Polizeikommissar Herold, Stabs-PK (about 39 years of age)
 Polizeikommissar Kuerbe, Stabs -PK (about 25 years of age, Antifa graduate)
 Soviet artillery colonel wearing the uniform of an Oberpolizeirat, instructor.

Armament:
 Five or six heavy machine guns of models OG/15 and Paksim
 Fifty submachine guns of model 44
 Two hundred carbines of model 98K
 Fifty pistols of models OG and 38

Motor vehicles:
 Three trucks
 Three or four passenger cars

Training:
 Infantry training (attack, defense and close-combat)
 Theoretical engineer training
 Theoretical signal training
 Artillery training was allegedly to be taken up soon.

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b. The Volkspolizeischule in Treuenbrietzen/Selterhof (former ammunition plant) received four 75-mm guns in January 1950. The school numbered about 1,000 police at that time (billeting capacity about 1,200 men). Most of the ER were said to have come from Thuringia.

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11. Polizeibereitschaft in Weissenfels (M 52/3 99).

a. The Polizeibereitschaft in the Artillerie Kaserne, Weissenfels, was dissolved in June 1949, allegedly because of a mutiny as was learned in December 1949. Some of the personnel were discharged, some were transferred to other police units in Magdeburg (M 52/D 35) and at the border.

b. Another police unit which had been activated in the same caserne and was allegedly designated 1st Polizeibereitschaft was transferred to Kamburg (M 52/J 89) on 1 August 1949.

c. The activation in Weissenfels of a police unit, designated 5th Polizeibereitschaft, was started on 1 June 1949. The 1st Kommando consisting of 3 platoons (each with 1 officer and 50 ER) was activated by 1 August 1949, the 2d Kommando by mid-August 1949 and the 3rd Kommando by early September 1949.

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d. [redacted] data on the Bereitschaft [redacted]

- Strength: About 1,000 police
- Organization: Stabskommando and three Kommandos (each company including two elite platoons for the training of NCO candidates)
- Personnel:
 - Polizeirat Reichfischer, CO of Bereitschaft (comes from Oebisfelde (~ 53/Y 43)).
 - Polizeirat Karl Meyer, FK-Leiter (comes from Oebisfelde)
 - Polizeirat Stoeber, administration and supply officer (comes from Oebisfelde)
 - Two Soviet Inspektoren ranking as Oberpolizeiraete
- Armament:
 - Eight heavy machine guns
 - Fifty submachine guns, model 44
 - Hundred-fifty carbines, model 98K
 - Twenty pistols, model 38
- Motor vehicles:
 - Two trucks
 - Eight small cars
 - Four motorcycles
- Training:
 - Engineer training
 - Field training
 - Theoretical radio training
 - Maintenance and servicing of engines

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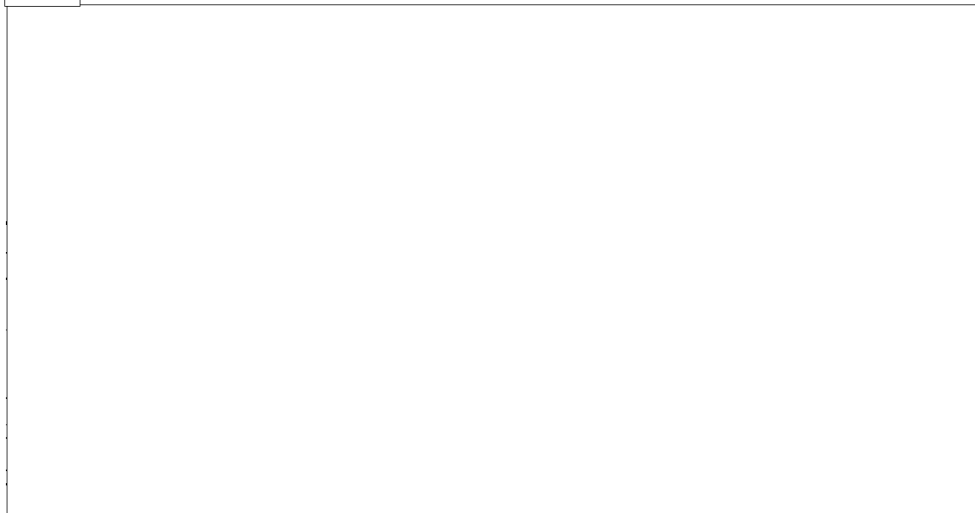
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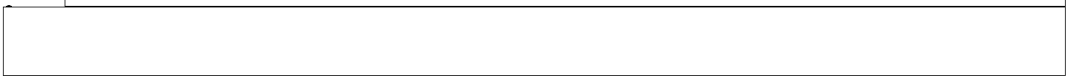
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the Glöwen school is a basic training school for artillerie-
bereitschaften.

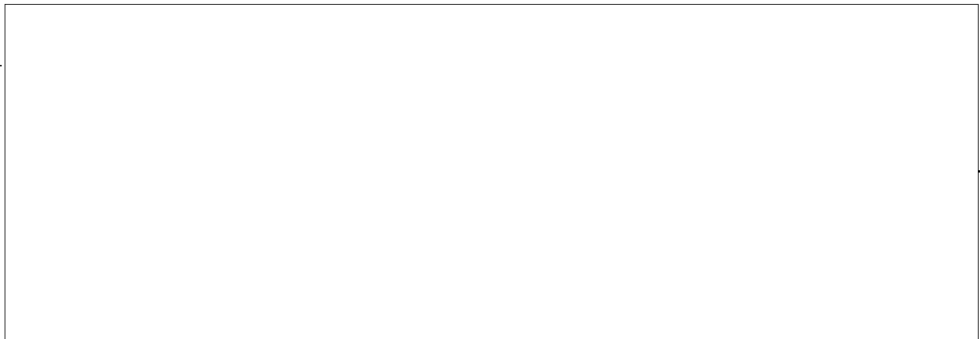
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The Fliegerhorst Kaserne is known to be occupied by Soviet troops.

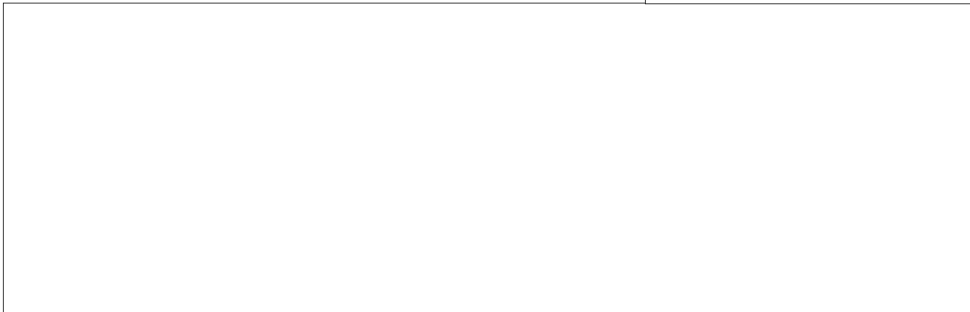
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(7)

The Volkspolizeiinheit is stationed in the former Luftwaffen Kaserne at the airfield.

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